



Notice to Wallops Neighbors



Fact Sheet

January 2006

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Norfolk District

Purpose

The beautiful areas surrounding NASA's Wallops Flight Facility are very valuable community assets for both recreational and commercial users. Fishing, crabbing, boating, hunting, and activities for nature enthusiasts surround our Nation's critical resources for suborbital research and for Department of Defense / U.S. Navy operations.

This **Fact Sheet** seeks to inform Wallops neighbors and other interested members of the public of potential safety concerns on US Government Property at the Wallops Flight Facility (WFF). This **Fact Sheet** serves as a reminder that US Government property is off-limits to the public at all times, and clarifies adjacent Commonwealth of Virginia lands that are open to the public for recreational or commercial use.

NASA Identifies Potential Historic Explosion Hazards on Wallops Island and Main Base

Based on recently acquired historical archives, unexploded ordnance (UXO) items and live munitions may be present on US Government Property at the WFF due to U.S. Navy activities conducted prior to 1959. Two areas of concern have been identified: 1) Gunboat Point, located on the north end of Wallops Island, and 2) the Main Base Boat Basin, located east of Route 175 (See Map). To date, only limited quantities of munitions have been identified; however, the potential exists for larger and more dangerous items to be present. **Unexploded military ordnance or ordnance debris is a substantial danger and an extreme safety hazard.**

Ordnance Safety – What You Should Know and Do

- Heed all warning signs. If you see a sign stating DANGER—EXPLOSION HAZARD, avoid and stay out of that area.
- If you must make an emergency landing in the Explosion Hazard area:
 - Never approach or disturb suspected UXO or munitions or other foreign objects.
 - Do not dig in the soil or sand.
 - Never assume that UXO or munitions are harmless. Even though old, these items can still explode and cause serious injury or death.
 - Exit the area to the south while staying on the ocean side of the beach. Stay clear of all foreign or suspect objects.

What's Being Done

To protect the public from inadvertently trespassing on U. S. Government property at the WFF Main Base and Wallops Island, many new signs clearly marking US Government property on land, beaches, and waterways have been posted.



NASA Security has increased surveillance of all federal property areas. Penalties for violators are severe. The restrictions; however, do not affect the lands surrounding Wallops Island that are owned by the Commonwealth of Virginia and managed by the Virginia Marine Resource Commission.

Where Do I Get More Information?

For more information about this matter contact:

Mr. Keith Koehler
NASA Public Affairs Office
Wallops Flight Facility Code 130.4, Bldg. F-6
Wallops Island, VA 23337
Telephone: (757) 824-1579

The Department of Defense and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have ultimate responsibility for responding to and managing military munitions and UXO concerns at former military properties. For more information regarding the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and their programs, or if you or anyone you know has collected munitions from US Government Property at the WFF or if you have a "souvenir" that may be ordnance or munitions related, contact:

Mr. John Regan, P.E.
USACE Project Manager
803 Front Street
Norfolk, VA 23510
Telephone: (757) 201-7094

For further information regarding State lands, contact:

Virginia Marine Resources Commission
<http://www.mrc.state.va.us>
Telephone (757) 247-2200



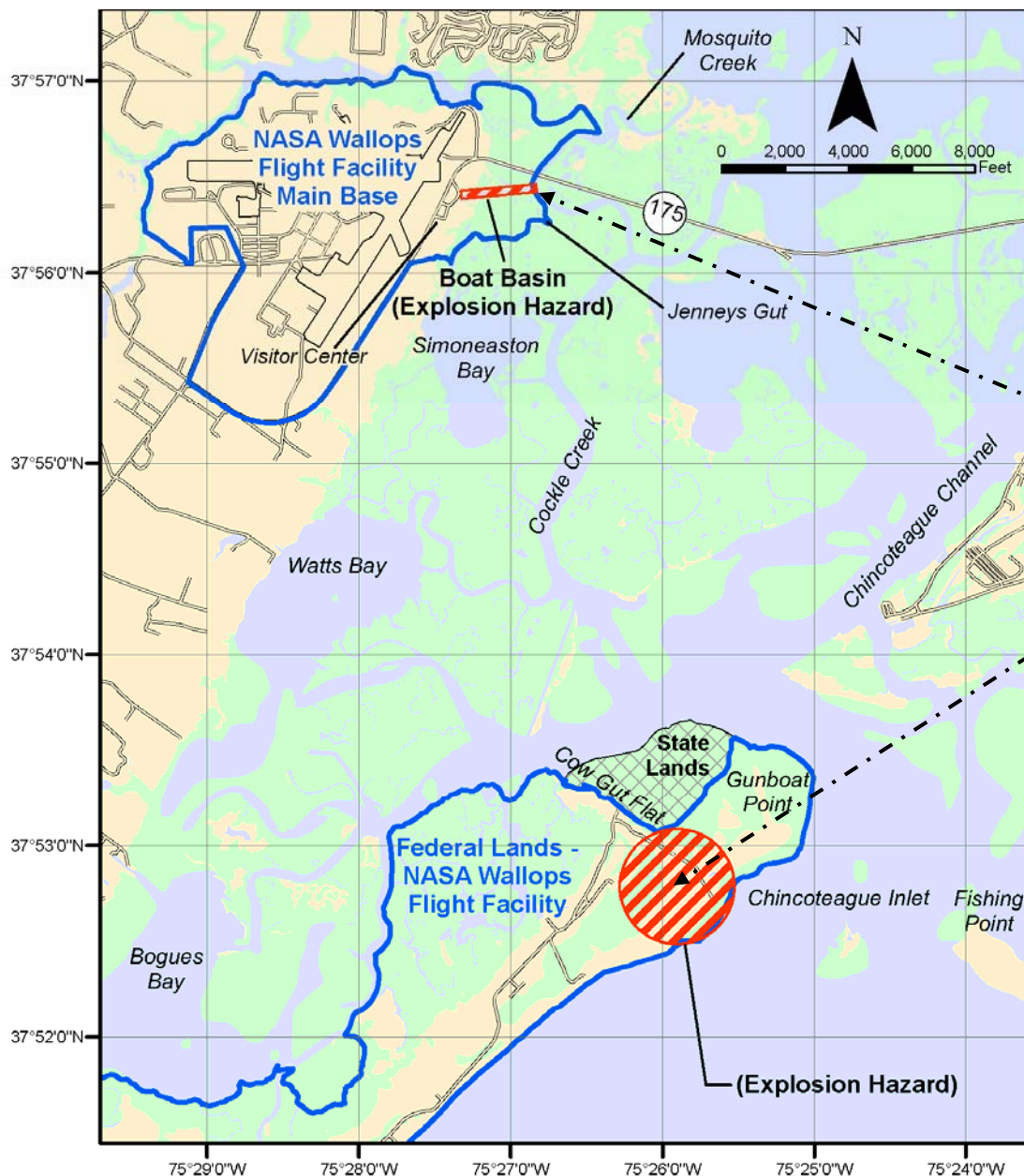
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SUMMARY

- UXO and discarded military munitions are serious safety concerns and are extremely dangerous.
- Federal property boundaries are permanent and enforceable.

U.S.
GOVERNMENT
PROPERTY
**NO
TRESPASSING**
DANGER - PELIGRO
**EXPLOSION
HAZARD**



Typical 20 MM projectile rounds (U.S. Navy phot